

EPO - DG 1

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Claims

(75)

*Sub B1*

1. A non-return valve (1; 11; 21; 51; 71) comprising a valve member (2; 12; 22, 32; 52; 72) having a circumferential face and a channel (3, 4; 13, 14; 23, 24, 33, 34; 53, 54; 73, 74) with a mouth on either side, the mouth at one end of the channel being sealable by a valve element (9; 19; 29, 39; 59; 79) capable of releasing said one mouth at a predetermined pressure in the channel higher than an ambient pressure, said valve element comprising an O-ring manufactured from an elastic material, such as a rubber or a resilient plastic, and said one mouth of the channel being located in a groove (7; 17; 27, 37; 66) sealed by the valve element and having circumferential edges provided on parts which are adjustable and fixable relative to each other, characterized by a setting mechanism (6b, 6c; 16; 26; 63, 64; 77, 80) for steplessly setting the circumferential edges such that they are lockable and displaceable relative to each other.

2. A non-return valve according to claim 1, characterized in that the setting mechanism (6b, 6c; 16; 26; 63, 64; 77, 80) comprises a screw connection whereby one circumferential edge is displaceable relative to the other circumferential edge.

3. A non-return valve according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that at least one further ring (62) is provided in the groove, freely displaceable relative to the groove walls, so that the groove is subdivided into several gaps (66) all shut off by an O-ring (59).

4. A non-return valve according to claim 3, characterized in that each further ring is an O-ring (78).

5. A non-return valve according to claim 4, characterized in that an O-ring (78) that forms a further ring has a greater diameter than an O-ring (79) that forms a valve element.

6. A non-return valve according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that a screening cap (40; 60; 81) connected to the valve member (32; 52; 72) is provided at a distance around the O-ring (39; 59; 79), the interior of said screening cap being in open communication with the environment.

*Sub A1*

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*sub A3*

7. A non-return valve according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that between the mouths on either side of the channel (33), a further mouth is provided which is sealable by means of a further O-ring (29) and communicates with a further channel (23) having a second mouth which is located outside the channel (33).

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*fold 2*

*fold 3*